

DD/S 70-1655

22 APR 1970

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Secretary's Committee to Facilitate Travel

1. On 8 April 1970 three members of the Secretary's Committee, Mr. John W. Hanes, Jr., former Senator Leverett Saltonstall, and Mr. John E. Upston visited me to discuss travel and passport problems as they may affect the Agency. [REDACTED] attended for DD/P. A general discussion of a number of items reflecting on travel was conducted for about half an hour. The first basic question posed was whether any arrangements or agreements that could be reached to facilitate travel whereby passports and visas might be eliminated would have any effect upon Agency activities. A discussion followed and it was pointed out that as far as travel of Agency personnel was concerned we would conform to the travel documentation [REDACTED]

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[REDACTED] As regards our ability to follow the travels of foreign nationals of interest to the Agency we do so partly through our own capability and through the assistance of other foreign intelligence services. It was stated that a passport does reflect the entry and exit in each country of an individual in the course of travel and that this is of value and assistance when access to that document can be obtained. Speaking in general terms both [REDACTED] and I expressed the viewpoint that freedom of travel without current documentation might reduce our capability in monitoring the travel of certain foreign nationals, but we felt that in one form or another we could devise other means of monitoring which would give us an equivalent coverage. We did not see this as a problem to the Agency.

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2. Former Senator Saltonstall raised this same question several times as to the effect of foreign nationals visiting the United States and its effect upon internal or national security. Two or more times we stressed the point that CIA has no internal security function, and comments of this nature would be the responsibility of the FBI and the immigration and naturalization service and other law enforcement agencies. Both Mr. Hanes and Mr. Upston clearly understood our position. However, we are not sure that Senator Saltonstall fully understood this fine point of relationship. It is possible that the Senator who is somewhat deaf had difficulty in hearing and understanding this specific point we were trying to make.

3. In the course of the discussion it was noted that many countries for their own national reasons require passports and visas as a control measure and it did not appear likely that they would relax these restrictions in the near future. It was also pointed out that out of the total number of international travelers there are very few of interest to the police forces or internal security authorities of the countries involved. In the general discussion it was indicated that the number of international travelers who resort to false documentation are also probably extremely small. Mr. Hanes commented that this was his strong viewpoint and he could not see why elaborate border controls were exacted both in documentation requirements and inspection and in luggage inspection when the number of illegal travelers or suspicious travelers was so very small. It was further mentioned by Mr. Upston and Mr. Hanes that in the drug and other similar type traffic that most arrests occurred through tips and not through discoveries by customs or immigration officers.

4. The Committee members expressed their appreciation for our meeting and discussion and advised that they did not think further testimony or comments would be necessary by the Agency.


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Deputy Director
for Support

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